

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 036704

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DRAFTED BY L/AF:CASCHMITZ:MMP

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S/S -O: J.HOGANSON

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O P 190015Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 036704

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, ICRC

SUBJECT: ICRC OPERATIONS IN ETHIOPIA

REF: (A) KHARTOUM 0400

(B) ADDIS ABABA 1763

1. DEPT AGREES WITH EMBASSY KHARTOUM SUGGESTION REF (A)
THAT U.S. MISSION PASS ON TO ICRC DELEGATE GENERAL
SUBSTANCE AMBASSADOR BREWER'S CONVERSATION WITH MIRGHANI
AND SUGGEST THAT MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF BRINGING ABOUT PMG
PERMISSION TO ICRC TO OPERATE IN ERITREA WOULD BE FOR SUDAN
TO MAKE FIRST APPROACH, WITH USG SUPPLEMENTING GOS
INITIATIVE.

2. IN OUR VIEW, SUDANESE INITIATIVE WOULD APPEAR SOLVE
PROBLEM SUGGESTED BY ICRC REF (B), AVOIDING SITUATION IN
WHICH ICRC MIGHT APPEAR TO BE TOO CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH
USG. AT SAME TIME, WE DO NOT WISH APPEAR TO BE WALKING
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AWAY FROM OUR OBLIGATIONS UNDER 1949 CONVENTIONS TO ENSURE

COMPLIANCE UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES. ACCORDINGLY, WE
SHOULD AVOID GIVING IMPRESSION THAT USG ATTEMPTING TO HIDE
DELEGATE GENERAL, THEREFORE, MISSION SHOULD REAFFIRM USG
DISPOSITION TO WEIGH IN WITH PMG AT APPROPRIATE TIME. MAW

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